Brain Drain from ISRO

3622. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a brain drain of a serious dimension from the Indian Space Research Organisation during the last five years;

(b) if so, the number of scientists who left the Organisation during this period, the reasons therefor and the countries to which they have gone;

(c) whether it has seriously affected the work schedule of this prestigious science institute of the country; and

(d) the steps taken to stop this brain drain from ISRO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Scientists/Engineers leaving Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is not a totally new phenomenon as there have been resignations in the past, too. However, in the recent past, there has been an increase in the number of persons leaving the organisation possibly for better prospects, especially in certain disciplines like computers and telecommunications. As many as 530 Scientists/Engineers have left during the last five years and personal reasons have been cited for such resignations. The liberalisation of the economy since 1991-92 has provided them new employment opportunities in our country itself with high remuneration levels. The exact information in respect of persons who have gone abroad, is not available.

(c) The resignations of Scientists/Engineers have so far not had any serious impact on the schedule of the Space Programme. However, occasions did arise when schedule critical work had to slow down for a while in a few areas owing to a number of Scientists/Engineers leaving almost at the same time.

(d) Better housing facilities, further opportunities for academic and related activities including further studies, enhancement of interface between Scientists and industry are among the steps proposed.

Urban environment management programme of HUDCO

3623. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether HUDCO organised some Urban Environment Management programme in New Delhi in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the meet was attended by noted engineers, town planners, sociologists, journalists, architects of some foreign countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof, with suggestions received in the meet;

(e) whether Government propose to implement some of the suggestions to promote environmental awareness amongst citizens of country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) A five day workshop on "Capacity Building for Urban Environment Management" was organised by HSMT of HUDCO during February 17-21, 1997, as a part of a training programme on "Urban Development Management: Perspectives & Possibilities".

(c) and (d) The Workshop was attended by an inter-disciplinary group of participants from 18 foreign countries as well as India. The workshop focussed on